



# News Release

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## **Mason County: Boil-water advisory ends for Potlatch Beach Mutual**

*Two other health advisories for nearby water systems remain in effect*

**OLYMPIA** — Customers of the Potlatch Beach Mutual Water System in north Mason County no longer need to boil their tap water. The water system and its well have been disinfected, and the water now meets federal drinking water standards.

Two nearby water systems – Minerva Terrace and Canal Mutual – remain under boil-water advisories. *E. coli* was found in the wells of all three water systems last month. *E. coli* also has been confirmed in at least one private well in the area.

The state Department of Health encourages Minerva Terrace and Canal Mutual customers to continue boiling their tap water until they're told the danger has passed. In addition, the agency urges private well users and very small water systems in the area to have their water tested now for coliform bacteria if they haven't already. They can call Mason County Health Department at 360-427-9670, extension 400, for information about where to pick up and drop off sampling bottles.

Unusually heavy rains in early October are likely to blame for the contamination. Older wells and poorly built wells are especially vulnerable to contamination from water runoff. No illnesses have been reported in connection with this water contamination event.

Potlatch Beach Mutual customers who have questions can call Northwest Water Systems at 360-876-0958. Minerva Terrace and Canal Mutual customers can call Mason County Public Utility District 1 at 360-877-5249.

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